

DEPARTMENTAL BUDGET INFORMATION 36TH DISTRICT COURT (60)

MISSION

The mission of the 36th District Court is to administer justice with fairness, equality and integrity, resolve matters before the court in a timely manner with trained and motivated staff, and provide courteous and prompt service in a manner that inspires public trust and confidence.

DESCRIPTION

The 36th District Court is a limited jurisdiction court serving the City of Detroit. The Court has exclusive jurisdiction in all litigation up to \$25,000 and handles small claims and landlord/tenant proceedings. The 36th District Court handles a large volume of civil infraction traffic violations, drunk driving, misdemeanor and felony arraignments, and some parking violations, among various other court responsibilities. Criminal jurisdiction includes all misdemeanor criminal offenses and preliminary examination of felony offenses. Annual case filings exceed 450,000, the majority of which are handled in the Traffic and Ordinance Division. Michigan's largest limited jurisdiction court, the 36th District Court has 31 judges, 6 magistrates, and over 400 employees at a single location in downtown Detroit. The 36th District Court is one of the busiest courts in the nation. On a monthly basis more than 160,000 citizens conduct business at the court and in excess of 65,000 telephone inquiries are received.

MAJOR INITIATIVES

In Fiscal Year 2004-2005 the 36th District Court will complete the implementation of the Judicial Information System (JIS). This project is mandated by the State Court, and upon its completion, the new system will be compatible with other courts in the State

who also use JIS. The Court will recognize several operational efficiencies with JIS, particularly in the implementation of required legislative changes.

The primary focus of the Court remains updating and improving technology and improving access to the Court. Citizens can pay tickets and schedule Court dates over the Courts' website. Payments can also be made at all Western Union locations or over the phone. An Interactive Voice Response System (IVR) will be completed shortly, which will allow citizens to obtain information and pay tickets over the phone.

The Court continues to become involved in new initiatives to help the City and other agencies. The Felony Arraignment program has been expanded to include evening arraignments five days a week. Also, the Court has partnered with the Detroit Police Department and the Wayne County Sheriff's Department to enforce weight restrictions on motor carriers. Finally, the Court has become involved in processing judgments for the Municipal Civil Infractions Bureau.

PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE

Our vision for the 36th District Court is to become nationally recognized as a leader in providing innovative, cost-effective and efficient administration of justice. As Michigan's largest limited jurisdiction Court, we are responsible for processing and adjudicating over 500,000 criminal, traffic and civil cases each year. Since thousands of individuals come into contact with the Court on a weekly basis, public expectations of court services have also grown.

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In recent years, the challenges of serving the public has grown more complex as appropriations have often failed to keep pace with demand. An important element which will enable us to materialize our vision of the future is the ability to manage technology to improve court processes. It is our plan to utilize state-of-the-art technology to improve access to court information, support case management, and facilitate data exchange and integration with other agencies. In many instances, this involves using current technology in new ways, e.g. using personal computers as a vehicle for communication rather than stand alone items, and using the Internet as a vehicle for commerce as well as more general communication.

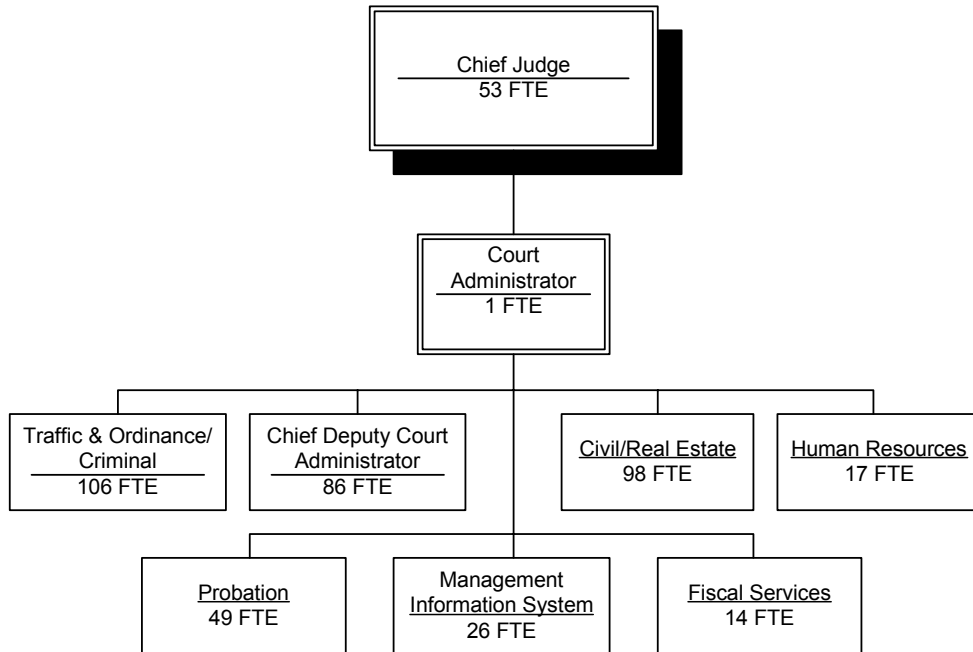
The implementation of the Judicial Information System will present the Court with the opportunity to make great strides toward achieving our vision of utilizing state of the art technology to improve court processes. This system is designed to automate and integrate many of the

functional areas of the Court's judicial processes. Once implemented, this system will improve case flow management, reduce the amount of paperwork needed to maintain records and generate statistical reports required by the State of Michigan.

We will also concentrate our efforts on developing and implementing initiatives that continuously improve the services provided by the 36th District Court. These continuous improvement efforts focus on how things get done by isolating those processes, which could cause mistakes, delays or raise costs.

The redevelopment and implementation of new procedures and technologies will realign the Court with the changing demands of our environment. By adopting a proactive attitude towards innovation and the creation of new initiatives, the Court will continuously develop the tools necessary to respond to the expanding service needs of our customers.

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PERFORMANCE GOALS, MEASURES AND TARGETS

Goals: Measures	2002-03 Actual	2003-04 Projection	2004-05 Target
Criminal Division:			
Felony	11,592	11,940	12,537
Misdemeanor	134,621	138,660	145,593
Civil Infractions	2,030	2,091	2,195
Traffic and Ordinance:			
Misdemeanors and Civil Infractions	244,679	252,019	264,620
Operating under the Influence of Liquor (OUI/OWI)	4,702	4,843	5,085
Civil Division:			
General	53,397	54,999	57,749
Small Claims	5,452	5,616	5,896
Real Estate	40,878	42,104	44,210
Total Cases	497,351	512,272	537,885

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	Actual Expense	2003-04 Redbook	Mayor's Budget Rec	Variance	Variance Percent
Salary & Wages	\$ 21,567,109	\$ 19,990,063	\$ 20,177,250	187,187	1%
Employee Benefits	8,936,797	8,883,233	10,773,081	1,889,848	21%
Prof/Contractual	4,084,591	3,891,277	3,929,097	37,820	1%
Operating Supplies	936,313	1,012,960	923,363	(89,597)	-9%
Operating Services	10,767,800	12,021,723	12,644,278	622,555	5%
Capital Equipment	522,277	1,065,688	67,000	(998,688)	-94%
Capital Outlays	(7,039)	-	-	-	0%
Other Expenses	922,126	852,053	840,204	(11,849)	-1%
TOTAL	\$ 47,729,974	\$ 47,716,997	\$ 49,354,273	\$ 1,637,276	3%
POSITIONS	482	508	450	(58)	-11%

REVENUES

	2002-03 Actual Revenue	2003-04 Redbook	2004-05 Mayor's Budget Rec	Variance	Variance Percent
Fines/Forfeits/Penalties	\$ 10,978,026	\$ 10,815,000	\$ 10,865,000	\$ 50,000	0%
Grants/Shared Taxes	734,462	726,072	834,895	108,823	15%
Sales & Charges	9,053,555	7,947,444	10,052,444	2,105,000	26%
Sales of Assets	564,907	-	-	-	0%
TOTAL	\$ 21,330,950	\$ 19,488,516	\$ 21,752,339	\$ 2,263,823	12%

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